(c) whether it is a fact that files of pensioners are being tampered with by Railway officials of that Division;

(d) if so, the action taken by Government in the matter; and

(e) by when these cases would be disposed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a), (b) and (e) No, Sir. However, seven applications freshly received on 8-3-2001 have been processed for audit and payment.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Retrenchment of Railway employees

†3142. SHRI RAMA SHANKER KAUSHIK: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of railway employees/officers who were working by the end of year 2000 and how many of them were in railway operations, stating the nature of other works and the number of employees/officers engaged thereon;

(b) whether Government have decided to undertake large scale retrenchment of railway employees; if so, the number of employees likely to be retrenched from the railway operations and other departments; and

(c) the likely impact of retrenchment move on the railway operations and in what manner Government would ensure smooth functioning of rail services in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

---

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.